

February 8, 2016

TO: Supervisor S. Joseph Simitian, District 5
Jeffrey V. Smith, M.D., J.D., County Executive

FROM: Rene Santiago, Deputy County Executive SCVHHS
Paul Lorenz, Chief Executive Officer SCVMC

SUBJECT: Status of Dental Vans

During the January 13, 2016 Health and Hospital Committee meeting, Supervisor Simitian requested information on the status of the dental vans operated by Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC). Below is the information requested in regards to the dental vans.

Santa Clara Valley Medical Center operates two dental vans: 1) Ronald McDonald Pediatric Dental Van and the 2) Homeless Dental Van. Currently, the Ronald McDonald Dental Van serves children ages 0-21 at two locations. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, the Ronald McDonald Dental Van provides dental services at VHC Sunnyvale from 9:00am – 4:00pm. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, the Ronald McDonald Dental Van sees patients at SCVMC Main Campus at the corner of Fruitdale Avenue and Bascom Avenue from 8:30am – 4:00pm. In the last five years, the Ronald McDonald Dental Van has provided services to more than 10,000 pediatric patients. This year, a new Ronald McDonald Pediatric Dental Van will be added to the fleet. The new Ronald McDonald Van is in the licensing process and is expected to be in operation by May 2016.

The second van, Homeless Dental Van, provides dental services to the homeless adult population at various locations throughout Santa Clara County. On Mondays, the van is stationed at Montgomery Street Inn from 9:00am-3:30pm. On Tuesdays, the van travels to HomeFirst from 8:30am-3:30pm and Wednesdays, the van is at St. Joseph's Family Center in Gilroy from 9:00am-3:30pm. The van is also parked at the Re-Entry Resource Center on Thursdays from 9:00am-3:30pm. On alternating Fridays, the van can be found at the Georgia Travis Center and the Opportunity Center in Palo Alto. In the last five years, the Homeless Dental Van has provided dental services to over 13,000 homeless patients.

Recently, the Homeless Dental Van was taken out of service in order to refurbish the interior. It is expected that it will take several months to fully replace the outdated interior and equipment. In order to minimize disruption in services, one dentist and support staff has been added to VHC Tully one day per week to serve patients. VHC Tully also continues to provide dental services to Re-

Entry clients. On Wednesdays of each week, a dentist and support staff travel to VHC Gilroy to see patients from the St. Joseph's Family Center site. Dental staff have also been working with InnVision Network to coordinate care for patients who are unable to travel to VHC Tully for dental services.

Over the past six months, SCVMC has also been working with local organizations such as Children and Family Services and Bill Wilson Center to bring dental services to children who may not otherwise have access to dental care. SCVMC has been working closely with Children and Family Services on two important initiatives: 1) ensuring foster children have access to dental services and 2) bringing dental services to migrant workers. A referral process has been developed to link foster children to dental services at SCVMC. Additionally, SCVMC is assessing the need to provide dental services to migrant workers who cannot readily access dental services for their children. Often times, these migrant workers do not have the ability to take time off work to bring their children in for their appointments. SCVMC Administration has been discussing the possibility of bringing the Pediatric dental van to these migrant areas to provide dental services. Additionally, a plan is being developed to bring dental services to Transitional Aged Youths (TAY) at the Bill Wilson Center who have difficulty accessing and maintaining dental treatment.

Looking forward, there is an expansion of dental coverage slated for children and adults under MediCal. SCVMC is working diligently to expand services to meet the needs of the adult and pediatric patients who may need dental care while removing barriers that prevent them from accessing dental services.

cc: Supervisor Mike Wasserman, District 1
Supervisor Cindy Chavez, District 2
Supervisor Dave Cortese, District 3
Supervisor Ken Yeager, District 4
Megan Doyle, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors